

I was shocked and outraged to learn of Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to require their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary just days before the election. It is a clear and ominous example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair Broadcasting uses the public airwaves free of charge, and in return, is obligated by law to serve the PUBLIC interest. But when large companies such as Sinclair control the airwaves, the PUBLIC gets more of what's good for THEIR bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions demonstrate the need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Thank you.